

Message Text

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ACTION IO-13

INFO OCT-01 CIAE-00 CU-02 INR-07 NSAE-00 AID-05 USIE-00
EUR-12 ISO-00 IOE-00 SSO-00 INRE-00 L-03 MMO-01
PA-01 PRS-01 /046 W
-----091322Z 094119 /50

O P 091145Z MAY 77
FM AMEMBASSY PARIS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2588
INFO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW PRIORITY
USMISSION USUN

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NESCO

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: AORG, OCON, SCUL, UNESCO, UR
SUBJECT: UNESCO 102ND EXBD: SOVIET MODIFICATIONS OF
RUSSIAN LANGUAGE EDITION OF UNESCO "COURIER"
ON US BICENTENNIAL

REF: (A) STATE 096715, (B) PARIS 13440

1. UNLESS OTHERWISE INSTRUCTED, DR. KAMM, US EXBD MEMBER WILL DELIVER ON MONDAY, MAY 9, 1977, AFTERNOON FOLLOWING TEXT OF US STATEMENT ON SUBJECT MATTER IN PRIVATE (CLOSED) SESSION OF THE EXBD.
2. QUOTE: MR. CHAIRMAN, I HAVE BEEN INSTRUCTED BY MY GOVERNMENT TO BRING TO THE ATTENTION OF THIS EXECUTIVE BOARD CERTAIN ASPECTS OF THE RUSSIAN-LANGUAGE EDITION OF THE US BICENTENNIAL ISSUE OF THE UNESCO COURIER OF JULY 1976, WHICH WE CONSIDER DEPLORABLE.

THE ISSUE CONTAINS TWO ARTICLES BY THE SOVIET AUTHORS,
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MR. ARBATOV AND MR. BOGDANOV, BOTH FROM THE SOVIET INSTITUTE ON THE USA AND CANADA. THESE ARTICLES DO NOT APPEAR IN THE AUTHORIZED EDITION OF THIS OFFICIAL UNESCO PUBLICATION. THESE ARTICLES CONTAIN COMMENTS WHICH WE CONSIDER TO BE OFFENSIVE, MALICIOUS AND WHICH ARE DAMAGING TO THE IDEA OF UNESCO WHICH THE COURIER IS SUPPOSED TO SERVE. THEY WERE IN-

SERTE BY THE SOVIET EDITORS WITHOUT THE AUTHORIZATION OF THE DIRECTOR-GENERAL AND ARE CONTRARY TO THE "DIRECTIVES CONCERNING THE CONTENTS OF UNESCO PUBLICATIONS" ADOPTED BY THE 13TH GENERAL CONFERENCE OF UNESCO WHICH STRESS THE NECESSITY OF AVOIDING PUBLICATION OF ANY TEXT THAT MIGHT HAVE AN OFFENSIVE NATURE TO A MEMBER STATE. THEIR INSERTION IS ALSO CONTRARY TO THE AGREEMENT SIGNED BETWEEN UNESCO AND THE SOVIET NATIONAL COMMISSION WHICH, IN ARTICLE VI, STIPULATES, AND I QUOTE: "THE COMMISSION SHALL PUBLISH THE TEXT AS RECEIVED FROM UNESCO, WITHOUT ANY AMENDMENTS, DELETIONS OR ADDITIONS, AND SHALL FOLLOW THE LAY-OUT OF THE OTHER LANGUAGE EDITIONS PUBLISHED IN PARIS."

MR. CHAIRMAN, THE CLEAR INTENT OF THIS FIVE-PAGE ADDITIONAL AND VERY TENDENTIOUS MATERIAL IS TO OFFSET A BALANCED PICTURE OF THE UNITED STATES PRESENTED BY THE ORIGINAL 46-PAGE CONTENTS OF THE COURIER. WHILE CRITICIZING THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION FOR ESTABLISHING A SYSTEM DESIGNED TO PROMOTE "CAPITALISTIC PRIVATE ENTERPRISE," ARBATOV AND BODGANOV ADMIT THAT THE REVOLUTION AND THE DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE IN PARTICULAR WERE "PROGRESSIVE" DEVELOPMENTS IN THE 18TH CENTURY CONTEXT. BOTH AUTHORS, HOWEVER, SEE CONTEMPORARY UNITED STATES AS REACTIONARY AND IMPERIALISTIC PERVERSION OF THE IDEALS OF THE DECLARATION. MR. ARBATOV BEGINS HIS ARTICLE BY SAYING THAT AMERICA NO LONGER CARRIES THE "TORCH OF THE STRUGGLE FOR LIBERATED OFFICIAL USE

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TION" BUT IS "A BULWARK OF REACTIONARY REGIMES AND A SYMBOL OF THE OPPRESSION AND EXPLOITATION OF OTHER NATIONS." THE SECOND HALF OF MR. BODGANOV'S PIECE (AFTER BALANCED TREATMENT OF THE REVOLUTIONARY PERIOD) IS DEVOTED TO A COMPARISON OF CONTRASTING VIEWS WITHIN THE UNITED STATES OF THE BICENTENNIAL CELEBRATIONS, WHICH BOGDANOV LABELS AS "A STRUGGLE OF PROGRESSIVE AND DEMOCRATIC FORCES IN AMERICAN SOCIETY AND THE FORCES OF REACTION AND IMPERIALISM." MR. BOGDANOV ENDS HIS ARTICLE WITH THE FOLLOWING STATEMENT AND I QUOTE:

"NOT WISHING TO PLAY DOWN THE SIGNIFICANCE OF THE 200TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE VICTORY OF THE REVOLUTION. . . A GENUINE RESOLUTION OF THE SOCIAL, NATIONAL, ECONOMIC AND OTHER PROBLEMS CREATED BY CAPITALISM BECOME POSSIBLE ONLY AS A RESULT OF THE GREAT OCTOBER SOCIALIST REVOLUTION."

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ACTION IO-13

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 CU-02 INR-07 NSAE-00
AID-05 USIE-00 IOE-00 SSO-00 INRE-00 L-03 MMO-01
PA-01 PRS-01 /046 W
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FM AMEMBASSY PARIS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2589
INFO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW PRIORITY
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MR. CHAIRMAN. COMMENTARY IS NOT NECESSARY. WHAT THE SOVIET RESPONSE WOULD HAVE BEEN HAD SIMILAR CHANGES BEEN MADE IN THE NOVEMBER 1967 COURIER EDITION THAT MARKED THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE USSR. WHAT WE ARE PROTESTING HERE, MR. CHAIRMAN, IS NOT CRITICISM OF THE UNITED STATES, WHICH WE ARE WELL ABLE TO TOLERATE, BUT THE MISUSE OF THE OFFICIAL UNESCO PUBLICATION FOR THE NARROW PROPAGANDA PURPOSES BY A MEMBER STATE. IT IS MY DUTY TO REMIND THE MEMBERS OF THE BOARD THAT THIS IS NOT THE FIRST MANIPULATION OF THE RUSSIAN EDITION OF THE COURIER. INCIDENTS OF CENSORSHIP AND MAJOR ALTERATIONS IN THE CONTENTS MADE BY THE SOVIET EDITOR OF THE RUSSIAN EDITION OF THIS UNESCO MAGAZINE OCCURRED BEFORE. FOR EXAMPLE, THE RECORD WILL SHOW THAT THE NOVEMBER 1970 RUSSIAN-LANGUAGE EDITION OF COURIER ON "DISARMAMENT AND PEACE" WAS SERIOUSLY CHANGED. IN THAT EDITION NUMEROUS PARAGRAPHS ON SOVIET ARMS ACTIVITIES WERE DELETED, TABLES TAKEN FROM THE STOCKHOLM INTERNATIONAL PEACE RESEARCH

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INSTITUTE'S YEARBOOK OF WORLD ARMAMENTS AND DISARMAMENT, WERE ALTERED TO EXCLUDE COMMUNIST COUNTRIES FROM THE LISTS OF IMPORTERS OR EXPORTERS OF MAJOR WEAPONS AND AN ENTIRE PAGE LISTING "100 WARS AND OTHER CONFLICTS SINCE WORLD WAR II", BASED ON STOCKHOLM PEACE RESEARCH INSTITUTE'S YEARBOOK WAS DROPPED FROM THE RUSSIAN EDITION.

THE RECORD WILL ALSO SHOW THAT AN ARTICLE ENTITLED "ENVIRONMENTAL CONTROL AND ECONOMIC SYSTEMS" WHICH DOCUMENTS THAT THERE IS NO EVIDENCE WHATSOEVER THAT DIFFERENT ECONOMIC SYSTEMS ARE OF ANY IMPORTANCE IN CONNECTION WITH ENVIRONMENTAL DISRUPTION AND THAT STATE-OWNED COMPANIES ARE NO DIFFERENT FROM PRIVATELY-OWNED COMPANIES IN THE EXTENT TO WHICH THEY DAMAGE THE ENVIRONMENT, -- THAT AN ARTICLE DISCUSSING THIS TOPIC WAS ENTIRELY DELETED FROM THE JULY 1971 RUSSIAN EDITION OF THE COURIER.

MR. CHAIRMAN, SUCH MANIPULATION AND CENSORSHIP CANNOT BE ACCEPTED, LEAST OF ALL IN AN OFFICIAL PERIODICAL OF A UNITED NATIONS ORGANIZATION WHOSE VERY CONSTITUTION DEFENDS THE FREE FLOW OF INFORMATION THROUGHOUT THE WORLD.

THE DIRECTOR-GENERAL WAS GOOD ENOUGH TO KEEP US INFORMED ABOUT HIS EFFORTS TO OBTAIN FROM THE PROPER AUTHORITIES A FULL EXPLANATION OF THE UNAUTHORIZED TAMPERING WITH THE JULY 1976 ISSUE OF THE RUSSIAN-LANGUAGE EDITION OF COURIER. WE ARE GRATEFUL FOR ALL HIS EFFORTS IN THIS REGARD AND ASK HIM TO SHARE WITH US HERE HIS VIEWS ON THIS MATTER. WE ALSO CALL UPON THE DIRECTOR-GENERAL TO TAKE ALL NECESSARY STEPS TO CORRECT THIS PARTICULAR SITUATION AND TO ENSURE THE IDENTITY OF THE DIFFERENT LANGUAGE EDITIONS OF THE COURIER, IN ORDER TO SAFEGUARD THE UNIVERSAL NATURE OF ITS SERVICE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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TO MUTUAL UNDERSTANDING AND RESPECT BETWEEN NATIONS AND PEOPLES.

MR. CHAIRMAN, I THANK YOU AND MY COLLEAGUES ON THE BOARD FOR GIVING US AN OPPORTUNITY OF BRINGING THIS SERIOUS MATTER BEFORE YOU IN THIS PRIVATE SESSION. I MUST RESERVE MY RIGHT TO ASK AGAIN FOR THE FLOOR IF IT BECOMES NECESSARY.

THANK YOU. UNQUOTE.

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ACTION IO-13

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 CU-02 INR-07 NSAE-00
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PA-01 PRS-01 /046 W
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3. WE ALSO WOULD LIKE TO PROPOSE TO THE BOARD ADOPTION
OF FOLLOWING TEXT OF DRAFT RESOLUTION:

QUOTE: THE EXECUTIVE BOARD,

1. HAVING HEARD THE EXCHANGE OF VIEWS BY THE MEMBERS
OF THE EXECUTIVE BOARD AND THE DIRECTOR- GENERAL ON
THE SUBJECT MATTER;

2. RECALLING THE CONSTITUTION OF UNESCO AND IN PARTICULAR THE PARAGRAPH OF THE PREAMBLE RELATING TO THE UNRESTRICTED PURSUIT OF OBJECTIVE TRUTH AND THE FREE EXCHANGE OF IDEAS AND KNOWLEDGE;

3. INVITES THE DIRECTOR-GENERAL TO ENSURE THAT ALL THE LANGUAGE EDITIONS OF THE COURIER ARE IDENTICAL IN CONTENT;

4. CALL ON ALL MEMBER STATES TO COOPERATE FULLY WITH
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THE DIRECTOR- GENERAL IN THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THIS
RESOLUTION;

5. INVITES THE DIRECTOR- GENERAL TO REPORT TO THE
103RD SESSION OF THE EXBD ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THIS
RESOLUTION. UNQUOTE.

4. WE ARE IN PROCESS OF CHECKING OUT WITH EXBD
CHAIRMAN, MR. MARTIN (UK), AND THE SECRETARIAT PRO-
PRIETY OF INTRODUCING SUCH DR IN A PRIVATE SESSION OF
THE BOARD. IF OBJECTED WE WILL NOT PROCEED WITH DR.

5. US DEL WILL KEEP DEPARTMENT FULLY INFORMED ON
FURTHER DEVELOPMENTS IN THIS MATTER.
GAMMON

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Message Attributes

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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
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